

## **Yampa River (Revised 4/26/06)**

### **Between Stagecoach Reservoir (River Mile 217) and Elkhead Creek (River Mile 151) in Colorado**

**Who:** Colorado Division of Wildlife, Fort Collins, Colorado

**What:** Northern pike. Young of the year and adult northern pike will be collected for isotopic (chemical) analyses of otolith (inner ear) tissues to determine points of origin.

**When:** May through September, 2006

**Why:** See attached questions and answers.

**Contact:** Colorado Division of Wildlife, Fort Collins, Colorado  
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Upper Colorado River Endangered Fish Recovery Program,  
Denver, Colorado  
Debbie Felker, 303-969-7322, ext. 227, debbie\_felker@fws.gov  
Pat Nelson, 303-969-7322, ext. 226, pat\_nelson@fws.gov

### **Other Recovery Program studies/activities within this river section:**

- Mark and release of northern pike and smallmouth bass below Hayden
- Translocation of northern pike to Yampa State Wildlife Area ponds

## **Between Hayden (River Mile 177) and Craig (River Mile 135) in Colorado**

**Who:** U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Vernal, Utah

**What:** Northern pike. On the first trip, northern pike will be marked with a red tag and released back into the river. On six subsequent trips, northern pike will be removed and relocated to Yampa State Wildlife Area ponds, Loudy-Simpson pond, or other approved waters within Colorado, to provide additional or continued angling opportunities for the public.

Smallmouth bass. On all seven trips, smallmouth bass will be marked with a red tag and released back into the river. Subject to discussion and approval by Colorado Division of Wildlife, if large numbers of bass are encountered, some may be removed and relocated to area ponds.

**When:** April through June, 2006

**Why:** See attached questions and answers.

**Contact:** U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Vernal, Utah  
Dave Irving, 435-789-4078, ext. 17, dave\_irving@fws.gov

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### **Other Recovery Program studies/activities within this river section:**

- Northern pike study to determine origin

**Between Craig, Colorado (River Mile 134) and near Cross Mountain Canyon (River Mile 61) in Colorado**

**Who:** Colorado Division of Wildlife, Grand Junction, Colorado

**What:** Northern pike. On the first trip, northern pike will be marked with a yellow tag and released back into the river. On five subsequent trips, northern pike will be removed and relocated to Loudy-Simpson pond, Rio Blanco Reservoir, or other approved waters within Colorado, to provide additional or continued angling opportunities for the public. Forty northern pike will be set aside for CDOW's bioenergetics study.

Smallmouth bass within the South Beach reach (RM 124 to RM 134). On the first trip, smallmouth bass will be marked with a yellow tag and released back into the river. On five subsequent trips, smallmouth bass greater than or equal to 10 inches in length will be stocked into the City of Craig municipal pond or other approved waters in Colorado; bass less than 10 inches in length will be euthanized.

**When:** April through July, 2006

**Why:** See attached questions and answers.

**Contact:** Colorado Division of Wildlife, Grand Junction, Colorado  
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**Other Recovery Program studies/activities within this river section:**

- Warmwater fish bioenergetics study to determine age, growth, and food habits
- Smallmouth bass experiment to evaluate removal effectiveness
- Native and endangered fish response evaluation

**Within Little Yampa Canyon (River Mile 100 to 124) and within Lily Park (River Mile 51 to 56) in Colorado**

**Who:** Colorado State University, Fort Collins, Colorado

**What:** Smallmouth bass. Between river miles 124 (11 miles downstream from Craig) and 100 there will be one 12-mile treatment reach and one 12-mile control reach. On the first trip, smallmouth bass captured in both reaches will be marked with yellow tags and released back into the river. In both reaches, smallmouth bass greater than or equal to 10 inches in length will be removed during nine additional trips and relocated to area ponds or other approved waters within Colorado to provide additional or continued angling opportunities for the public. Smallmouth bass less than 10 inches in length will be euthanized.

Another treatment reach will be located in Lily Park between river miles 56 and 51 (5 miles upstream from Dinosaur National Monument). On the first trip, smallmouth bass will be marked and released back into the river. On five subsequent trips, smallmouth bass greater than or equal to 10 inches in length will be removed and relocated to area ponds. Smallmouth bass less than 10 inches in length will be euthanized.

Northern pike. Within the smallmouth bass treatment and control reaches, northern pike will be marked with yellow tags and released back into the river on the first trip. On subsequent trips, northern pike will be removed and relocated to Loudy-Simpson pond, Rio Blanco Reservoir, or other approved waters within Colorado, to provide additional or continued angling opportunities for the public.

**When:** April through August, 2006

**Why:** See attached questions and answers.

**Contact:** Colorado Division of Wildlife, Grand Junction, Colorado  
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**Other Recovery Program studies/activities within this river section:**

- Warmwater fish bioenergetics study to determine age, growth, and food habits
- Northern pike removal and translocation
- Native and endangered fish response evaluation

**Between Dinosaur National Monument (River Mile 46) and the Green River Confluence (RM 0) in Colorado**

**Who:** U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Vernal, Utah

**What:** Smallmouth bass and channel catfish. On seven trips, bass and catfish will be removed and, because of the remoteness of Yampa Canyon, euthanized, except on the last day of each trip, when captured fish will be transferred to CDOW for stocking into Rio Blanco Reservoir or other approved waters within Colorado to provide additional or continued angling opportunities for the public.

Northern pike. Any northern pike captured will be removed and euthanized.

**When:** June through September, 2006

**Why:** See attached questions and answers.

**Contact:** U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Vernal, Utah  
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**Other Recovery Program studies/activities within this river section:**

- Sediment monitoring
- Humpback chub monitoring/population estimate
- Larval Colorado pikeminnow and razorback sucker monitoring